population/every village. The Health Guide is a Voluntary Worker selected by the community having his own independent vocation. During his three months training, he is paid a stipend of Rs. 200/-per month and an honorarium of Rs 50/-per month thereafter. He is also supplied a medicine kit every quarter containing medicines worth Rs. 150/-. All the 430 Primary Heath Centres in Maharashtra have already been covered under the scheme on 1.4.1982. As per information received from the State Government 27304 Health Guides have been trained till 31,12.1982.

(c) The amount released to the State Government under the scheme since 1977-78, is given below:

| Year | Actual funds released (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 1977-78 | 47.66 |
| 1978-79 | 133.10 |
| 1979-80 | 104.72 |
| 1980-81 | 126,80 |
| 1981-82 | 240.70 |
| 1982-83 | 504.72 |
| 1983-84 | 225.00 |
| | (first two installment) |

(d) and (e) Supply of Health Guide kits has been decentralized since 1.4.79. The respective State Govt.s are now procuring and supplying these items through their own arrangements. It is understood that the State Government are enquiring into the allegations referred to in the news report

"Open University"

1923. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government had appointed a Committee to examine the feasibility or starting an "Open university" in the country on the lines of the United Kingdom, Shri Lanka, Venezuela, Canada, Australia, USA, USSR and other countries;
- (b) if so, the recommendations of the Committee; and
 - (c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) Yes, Sir. A Working Group was appointed in 1974 to examine the feasibility of establishing an open University in India.

- (b) The Working Group had recommended that the Central Government should establish an Open University by an Act of Parliament.
- (c) The Government examined the recommendations but it was decided to defer further consideration of the matter. Fresh consultations have been initiated to revive this proposal.

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सेवा के लिये चिकित्सकों की अनिच्छा

1924. श्री विरदाराम फुलवारिया: क्या स्वास्थ्य श्रीर परिवार कल्याण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- (क) क्या यह सच है कि चिकित्सक गांवों की अपेक्षा शहरों में सेवा करना अधिक पसन्द करते हैं;
- (ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि गांवों के कई आकस्मिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों पर चिकित्सकों की नियुक्ति किये जाने के पश्चात भी चिकित्सकों के पद रिक्त रहते हैं; और
- (ग) यदि हा, तो नया सरकार द्वारा इस संदर्भ में कोई नई नीति निर्घारित की गई है जिससे चिकित्सक गांवों में भी लोगों की सेवा खुशी से करेंगे ?

स्वास्थ्य ग्रीर परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्रीमती मोहसिना किंदबई): (क) से (ग) सरकार को डाक्टरों द्वारा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सेवा करने की अनिच्छा प्रकट करने तथा अक्सर इससे उत्पन्न होने वाली रिक्तयों के बारे में जानकारी है। डाक्टरों को ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कार्य करने के लिए आकर्षित करने हेतु सरकार ने एक कार्यकारी दल का गठन किया है। इस कार्यकारी दल की रिपोर्ट प्राप्त हो चुकी है और सरकार के विचाराधीन है।